

# LIBERTY NEWS

www.post152.com



## COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

I would like to start out by wishing you all a Happy New Year. We have had a lot of successful events for the Post these past couple of months. Thank you all for supporting the Post 152 Golf Tournament

Volume 30 Issue 1  
February 2011/  
March 2011

and Big Thanks to Pat and all others involved for a great time had by all. I can't say enough for the efforts put forth to make sure the Thanksgiving Dinner, Christmas Dinner, and Christmas Baskets were successful. Kathy and all others involved a Great Big Thanks to you! Wow, What an event for our New Years Eve Bash. That is exactly what I have always remembered our Family to be. Another Great Big Thanks out to Jenny and Team for a Great time had by all!

As we start a New Year I would like for everyone to ask themselves, "Where can I be of Service to the Post?" We have ongoing events that are always in need of help. Dinners every Friday and Wednesday night, Breakfast every Sunday morning, Steak Shoot on Saturdays, and We are in great need of an all around spring clean up. If you can help with any of these events please inform Debbie, our Bar Manager, and she will get you to the appropriate person.

I would also like to ask that we start working as a Team. There are a lot of Great People and Idea's that keep coming. If we can work together we can do some Amazing things. Please try to let the Past be the Past. Forget about those personal issues and remember exactly what we are all giving our time up for. "Veterans, this Post, and the American Legion organization" is what we all work hard for. This is a common goal between all of us. If we work together we can and will be successful. It truly amazes me what each and every one of you do. If we can work together the outcome will be tenfold of what we are achieving now.

We sang Old Lang Syne on New Year's Eve. Basically what we were saying is the following, "those old times be forgotten, and to remember our long-standing friendships" I read that as remembering the good old times and forgetting about the bad. I read this as remembering the great long standing friendships of the past and creating new friendships that could last a lifetime.

Our Post has a whole lot of new and old Friendships. Friendships take work just like relationships. There has to be give and take. This is true with Family as well. Thanks you all for everything that you do and thank you all for being big part of this wonderful Family. I ask that every time you enter the post remember that "WE ARE FAMILY"

Thank you,

Troy O. Pazos  
Commander Post 152

**WE ARE FAMILY FOR GOD AND COUNTRY**

AMERICAN LEGION POST 152 LOUNGE HOURS Phone (813) 920-3282

MON-THURS 10:00AM-11:00PM SUN 11:00AM-10:00PM FRI-SAT 10:00AM-1:30AM HAPPY HOUR M-F 4:00PM-7:00PM

\*EXCEPTIONS: HOURS WILL BE EXTENDED FOR SPECIAL EVENTS (I.E. SUNDAY NITE FOOTBALL, ETC.)

**POST OFFICERS 2010/2011**

Commander	Troy Pazos
1st Vice Commander	Geoff Gionet-Sauve
2nd Vice Commander	John Carter
Finance Officer	Buzz Bullock
Chaplain	Bill Scott
Historian	Open
Sgt. at Arms	Jim Dawson
Adjutant	Todd Hardy
Judge Advocate	Cliff Anderson
Service Officer	Charmaine Zimmerer

**Executive Committee**

3 Yr. Member	Patrick Maguire
2 Yr. Member	Bob Lair
1 Yr. Member	Don Pierson
	Rick Montemayor
Immed. Past Commander	Jim Zipler

**Appointed Committees**

Boys State	Debbie Lair
School Medals	Bill Seemann
Red Cross (Blood Bank)	Mike McIntosh
Lounge Committee	Jim Dawson
	Todd Hardy
	Bob Lair
Pull Tab Machine	Buzz Bullock
	Bill Taylor
	Bob Lair
Disciplinary	Keith Tinsley
	Richard Brown
	Jim Zipler
Newsletter/Webmaster	Cliff Zimmerer

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY OFFICERS 2010/2011**

President	Kathy Driggers
1st Vice President	Sheryl Kinsler
2nd Vice President	Kim Engelhardt
Secretary	JoAnn Lathers
Treasurer	Jeanne Kerens
Chaplain	Margaret Holtz
Historian	Linda Campbell
Sgt. at Arms	Gypsy Faulkner

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Romaine Taylor	
Anna Richter	
Vicky Irby	
Imm. Past President	Joyce England

**Unit 152 Auxiliary Chairman**

Children and Youth	Kathy Driggers
Girls State	Mary Perkins
Poppies	Jeanne Kerens
VA & R	Shirley Patz
Past President's Parley	Jeanne Kerens

**SAL OFFICERS 2010/2011**

Commander	Scott Hudson
1st Vice Commander	Open
2nd Vice Commander	Open
Finance Officer	Bob Lair
Advisor	Open
Adjutant	Open
Chaplain	Cowboy
Historian	Open
Sgt. at Arms	Tommy Harwick
Adjutant	Open

**The Liberty News is Published Monthly By:**

**American Legion  
Town & Country Memorial Post 152  
11211 Sheldon Road  
Tampa, FL 33626**

**Members may receive a free copy through USPS or pick one up at the Post.**

*God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but He did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the way.*



## **A.L.A. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hope everyone's holiday was good. 2011 has arrived. The Auxiliary's December Christmas meeting was a fun one with lots & lots of good food. Too bad the attendance was poor. The following people won the raffle: Susan Austin \$150, Margaret Holtz \$100 and Virginia Meeker \$50.00. Rummage Sale & Cookie Walk was another great success. Thanks goes out to everyone that helped make it successful, especially Jeanne Kerens and Romaine Taylor who were at the Legion 4 days in a row.

The Auxiliary made and contributed 112 blankets this last year along with 100 lbs of beads. We have received numerous thank-you letters from students who received items from the school supplies that were donated to Teaching Tools for Hillsborough Schools. Also once again everyone worked together to get Christmas gifts for Liberty Manor. Also the Auxiliary helped out a family that the mother was laid off right before Christmas and had 5 children. Thanks also go out to everyone that helped me out on the Children's Christmas Party.

The Auxiliary National President will be in our area May 8th-May 11, 2011 and will give you more details on that at a later date.

Important functions of the American Legion Auxiliary are helping out Veterans and their families as well as Children & Youth. I believe our Unit is good at accomplishing a lot of things in these areas. This is YOUR Auxiliary. We could be doing a lot more in these areas if we all were involved and not just leaving up to a few Auxiliary members. Believe me I know we all have jobs, families and other commitments. But couldn't you make it a goal this year to attend an Auxiliary meeting and help out on one of committees. We could use your support as well as your input.

**To God and Country,  
Kathy Driggers**



## **CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

### **NEW YEAR PRAYER**

Here we are already into a New Year, and our Nation is in big trouble, and we need lots of Prayer

Most High God I come to You in the name of Jesus asking for divine protection for the people of this nation. I pray for the safety of every man, woman and child. Keep us from harm's way and provide protection from plans of destruction that our enemies have plotted. Stop strategies of destruction that our enemies would

try to evoke.

Give wisdom, understanding and discernment to those who provide protection. Help us to be watchful and alert to signs of wrongdoing.

Provide insight to national and local authorities on ways to guard defend and insure the safety of all American citizens both at home and abroad. Help us to unite with government leaders and law enforcement personnel in making this country a safe place to live, work and play; allowing Americans to enjoy freedom without fear.

### **Scripture References**

John 16:13

Romans 8:14

Matthew 18:19,20

Our prayer and God's mercy are like two buckets in a well; while the one ascends the other descends.

**Yours in service  
Bill Scott  
Chaplain**

***Congratulations to  
Annette Hughey who became  
a US Citizen on 1/11/11.***



# SUPER BOOSTERS

- Annette Hughey ..... 01/11
- Mr & Mrs Claus ..... 04/11
- George & Joyce England ..... 10/11
- Tommy Hardwick ..... 11/11
- Rick & Jean Montemayor ..... 11/11
- Frank & Myra Ward ..... 12/11
- Marilyn Yeager ..... 01/12
- Fred & Margaret Holtz ..... 04/12
- TJ & Shirley Ramsey ..... 04/12
- TN & Donna Hair ..... 07/12
- Buzz & Linda ..... 09/12
- Bill & Pat Seeman ..... 10/12
- George & Jeannie ..... 11/12
- Cliff and Charmaine ..... 11/12
- Arsenio Trivin ..... 01/13
- Duck Green ..... 03/13
- D.W. Green ..... 04/13
- Phyllis Veihmeyer ..... 12/17
- Jack & Geraldine Billett, Sr ..... 07/18
- Gypsy & Larry Faulkner ..... 08/19

*If you would like to be a Super Booster, please pay your \$10.00 dues to the Post Finance Officer. The Post appreciates the support of all the Boosters.*

*A special thanks to the SAL & Auxiliary for their monthly donation towards our printing costs.*

***Larry and Gypsy Faulkner wanted to let everyone know they are doing well and wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year.***

# Coming Events

## February 4th Happy Days

Happy Days, a band specializing in the music of the 50's and 60's, but spanning the decades of dance music from the 40's to the present.

## February 7th Income Tax Service

Every Monday starting February 7th through April 18th, from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM you can get help with your income taxes at the Post. If you itemize, please wait until after March 7th.

## March 12th St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Join us for a traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner by George Pinner and Jeannie York.

### Members Helping Members

While we do not endorse any of the services listed, we are providing this service to match those members who provide a service to those who are in need of help. If you would like to be added to the list, leave a note with the bartender addressed to "Liberty News".

Service Provided	Name	Phone
Bookkeeping and Accounting	Ray Calliari	813-375-0107
Automobile Repair	Lenny Quartararo	813-885-3522
Contractor	Homer Claytor	813-886-2563
Handyman	Thomas Schmidt	813-241-5884
Handyman	Steve Barger	813-435-5468
Pre-Paid Legal Service	Armond LaFramboise	727-251-9294
Reverse Mortgage and Home Loans	Armond LaFramboise	727-251-9294

# Agent Orange: Blue Water Veterans

*Veterans who served on open sea ships off the shore of Vietnam during the Vietnam War are sometimes called “Blue Water Veterans.”*

In January 2009, the Supreme Court let stand an earlier court ruling that requires a Veteran to have served on land or on the inland waterways of Vietnam in order to be presumed exposed to Agent Orange.

Some ships offshore also docked to the shore of Vietnam or conducted operations on the inland waterways of Vietnam. Veterans are presumed exposed to Agent Orange if they went ashore when a ship docked to the shore of Vietnam or served aboard ships that operated on the inland waterways of Vietnam anytime between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975.

If not, Blue Water Veterans must show on a factual basis that they were exposed to Agent Orange or other herbicides during military service in order to receive disability compensation for **diseases associated with Agent Orange exposure**.

**Exception:** Blue Water Veterans claiming **non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma** as a disability may be granted service-connection without showing inland waterway service or that they went ashore when their ships docked to the shore of Vietnam. This is because VA also recognizes non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma as associated with service in Vietnam or the waters offshore of Vietnam during the Vietnam Era.

## Institute of Medicine Review on Possible Agent Orange Exposure

VA has asked the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine (IOM) to review the medical and scientific evidence regarding Blue Water Veterans’ possible exposure to Agent Orange.

A report should be completed and available by summer 2011.

IOM is evaluating:

- Historical background of the Vietnam War comparing Blue Water Navy, “boots on ground” combat troops, and Brown Water Navy (includes inland waters).
- Exposure levels among Blue Water Navy relative to ground troops in Vietnam or other contemporary ground troops deployed elsewhere (“Era” Veterans).
- Comparative exposures for troops on the ground and troops aboard ships in the context of all possible routes of exposure,

including herbicide “overspray” and consumption of contaminated water and food.

- A wide range of potential herbicide and dioxin exposure mechanisms including potential concentrating toxics in drinking water, air exposure possibly from drift from spraying, food, soil, skin, etc.
- Comparative risks for long-term health outcomes comparing Vietnam Veteran ground troops, Blue Water Navy Veterans, and other “Era” Veterans serving during the Vietnam War at other locations (assuming relative herbicide and dioxin exposures can be assessed). This will be based on **previous IOM Veterans and Agent Orange study conclusions**\*† on long-term health outcomes from herbicide exposure.
- Existing studies of Blue Water Navy Veterans for reported health outcomes.

## VA Benefits - Veterans

Eligible Veterans may receive the following VA benefits:

- **Health care benefits:** A full range of medical benefits. In order to receive health care benefits for diseases associated with Agent Orange exposure, Veterans who did not serve in Vietnam must show that they were exposed to Agent Orange or other herbicides during military service.
- **Agent Orange registry health examination:** A cost-free, comprehensive examination. Blue Water Veterans who went ashore when a ship docked to the shore of Vietnam or served aboard ships that operated on the inland waterways of Vietnam are eligible.
- **Disability compensation benefits:** A monthly payment for diseases associated with Agent Orange exposure. Blue Water Veterans who did not go ashore when a ship docked to the shore of Vietnam or serve aboard ships that operated on the inland waterways of Vietnam must show on a factual basis that they were exposed to herbicides during military service in order to receive disability compensation for diseases associated with Agent Orange exposure (other than **non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma**).
- **Other benefits:** Home loans, vocational rehabilitation, education, and more

*This is part of a series for the newsletter. You will see Atomic Veterans in the next issue.*

Yours in Service,

Charmaine Zimmerer  
Service Officer

# Nonprofit Divers4Heroes Offers Disabled Veterans a Chance to Scuba Dive

*By Logan Neill, Times Staff Writer, In Print: Saturday, February 27, 2010*

WEEKI WACHEE — The first surprise that Roger Thomas got when he slipped into the temperate Weeki Wachee Springs was the water's clarity. He could make out the dozens of mullet, turtles and other small creatures that make the spring their home swimming 30 feet below the surface.

The other surprise for 48-year-old former Marine, who lost his right hand years ago in a military training accident, was how easy it was to maneuver through the springs, even with 40 pounds of scuba gear attached to his body.

"It was unbelievable," Thomas said Thursday evening after his dive. "I think I'm hooked now. I can't wait to go again."

For Bo and Debbie Twillman, there are few rewards greater than knowing they've helped a wounded veteran experience the wonder and beauty of the underwater world.

Through their nonprofit company, Divers4Heroes, the Lakeland couple for two years have offered free introductory diving lessons to any wounded veteran who wants to give the activity a try.

"The idea is to at least get them to try it once," said Debbie Twillman. "A lot of them don't think it's possible for them to learn to dive. They've either lost limbs or are paralyzed or have some other trauma, and they're convinced they can't do it. We're here to show them they can."

Indeed, through an extensive support system that includes volunteer divers around the state, the Twillmans introduced the sport to dozens of men and women, many of whom have gone on to obtain their own scuba certification.

The idea for the program came during a 2006 trip to Key West, where the Twillmans watched several Iraq war veterans attempting to negotiate Duval Street in wheelchairs and on crutches. Facing everyday life was one thing, but the couple also discovered that very few physical recreational programs existed for permanently disabled vets.

Using her marketing skills, Debbie Twillman began contacting local disabled veterans groups and established ties with the recreational rehabilitation program at James A. Haley VA Medical Center in Tampa, which agreed to sponsor Divers4Heroes.

Meanwhile, Bo Twillman, an Army veteran and a dive instructor since 1993, set up a network of divers, instructors and dive shops around the state who wanted to help.

"The wonderful thing I discovered is that there are a lot of people out there like us who want to show their gratitude," Twillman said. "These are people who have sacrificed a lot for our country".

Other than permission from their doctors, participants in Divers4Heroes need not bring anything with them to dive. Pool time, tanks and wet suits are provided. As many 10 participants can take part in each class session.

Beginning dives are held in pools, but as divers gain more experience they are welcome to take part in open dives held at various locations around the state, including Ginnie Springs, Living Seas aquarium in Orlando as well as Weeki Wachee Springs State Park.

On Thursday, the Twillmans accompanied three veteran divers in Weeki Wachee Springs as they completed the necessary course work to obtain their diving certificates.

Tamie White, like Roger Thomas, had never strapped on scuba tanks before she met the Twillmans. An 11-year Army veteran who suffered a back injury, diving offered her a release she hadn't felt in a long time.

"It's a wonderful weightless feel. I have no pain when I'm in the water," she said. "It's like I'm normal again."

Those who want more information on  
Divers4Heroes can visit  
[www.divers4heroes.org](http://www.divers4heroes.org) or call (863) 430-1334.



*Doug Shaffer, 60, top, and Roger Thomas, 48, explore the underwater theater on a Divers4Heroes dive at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park on Thursday.*

# February 2011

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		<b>1</b> Draft beer 75 cents 25 cents off drinks 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM Boy Scouts <b>Pool tourney 7:15 PM</b>	<b>2</b> Member Dinner 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM  <b>Bingo 7:15 PM</b>	<b>3</b> Draft beer 75 cents 25 cents off drinks 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM <b>TEXAS HOLD'EM 7:00 PM</b>	<b>4</b> Commander's Fish Fry 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM <b>Music &amp; dancing with Happy Days</b>	<b>5</b> Steak shoot John  Karaoke - Patty 8:00PM – 12:00P
<b>6</b> Commander's Breakfast 8:30-10:30  <b>Dart tournament 3:30 PM</b>	<b>7</b> Free pool all day  <b>TEXAS HOLD'EM 7:00 PM</b>	<b>8</b> Draft beer 75 cents 25 cents off drinks 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM Boy Scouts <b>Pool tourney 7:15 PM</b>	<b>9</b> Commander Dinner 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM  <b>Bingo 7:15 PM</b>	<b>10</b> Draft beer 75 cents 25 cents off drinks 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM <b>Legion E-board Mtg 7:00 PM</b>	<b>11</b> Fish Fry 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM <b>Music &amp; dancing with Double Density</b>	<b>12</b> Steak shoot Jim  Karaoke - Patty 8:00PM – 12:00P
<b>13</b> Legion Breakfast 8:30-10:30  <b>Dart tournament 3:30 PM</b>	<b>14</b> Free pool all day  <b>AUX E-board Mtg 7:00 PM</b>	<b>15</b> Draft beer 75 cents 25 cents off drinks 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM Boy Scouts <b>Pool tourney 7:15 PM</b>	<b>16</b> Aux Dinner 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM  <b>Bingo 7:15 PM</b>	<b>17</b> Draft beer 75 cents 25 cents off drinks 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM <b>Legion General Mtg 7:00 PM</b>	<b>18</b> Dept & Dist Pres Dinner 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM <b>Music &amp; dancing with Rich Kelly</b>	<b>19</b> Steak shoot John  Karaoke - Patty 8:00PM – 12:00P
<b>20</b> Aux Breakfast 8:30-10:30  <b>Dart tournament 3:30 PM</b>	<b>21</b> Free pool all day  <b>AUX General Mtg 7:00 PM</b>	<b>22</b> Draft beer 75 cents 25 cents off drinks 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM Boy Scouts <b>Pool tourney 7:15 PM</b>	<b>23</b> SAL Legion Dinner 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM  <b>Bingo 7:15 PM</b>	<b>24</b> Draft beer 75 cents 25 cents off drinks 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM <b>TEXAS HOLD'EM 7:00 PM</b> Ent mtg 7:30pm	<b>25</b> Boy Scouts Fish Fry 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM <b>Music &amp; dancing with Rich Kelly</b>	<b>26</b> Steak shoot Jim  Karaoke - Patty 8:00PM – 12:00P
<b>27</b> Legion Breakfast 8:30-10:30  <b>Dart tournament 3:30 PM</b>	<b>28</b> Free pool all day  <b>TEXAS HOLD'EM 7:00 PM</b>					

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